

Tennessee Events

(Calendar events are as accurate as possible at press time. Since times or event schedules may change, telephone numbers are provided so you can call to confirm. For a complete listing of events in Tennessee State Parks, visit the Web site www.tnstateparks.com/events.)

March

Saturdays & Sundays in March &

- April** **Reelfoot Lake State Park.** Deep Swamp Canoe Trips. Join a park naturalist for a canoe trip into the old growth Cypress forest of Reelfoot Lake where you may see a variety of birds including Bald Eagles. Trips depart at 1 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person. Info: 731-253-9652.
- 10, 17 & 24** **Harpeth River State Park.** Mound Bottom Guided Hike. At 1 p.m., take a ranger-led hike to view the Mississippian Period Indian mound complex known as Mound Bottom. Reservations are required. Info: 615-952-2099.
- 9-10; 16-17; 23-24** **Rock Island State Park.** Guided Wildflower Hikes. Join the park interpretive ranger and guest naturalists for hikes to see an array of spring wildflowers along the trails. Info: 931-686-2471.
- 10 & 24** **Harpeth River State Park.** Pattison Forge/Harpeth Narrows Hike. At 10 a.m., enjoy a moderate one-mile hike through the Narrows of the Harpeth. Reservations are required. Info: 615-952-2099.
- 16** **Edgar Evins State Park.** Spring Waterfall Tour. Van rides to select waterfalls are planned in this tour presented by the Friends of Edgar Evins. The cost is \$10 per person and reservations are required. Info: 931-858-2114.
- 16-17** **Fall Creek Falls State Park.** Waterfalls Weekend. Take a hike, either easy or strenuous, to look at some of the area's waterfalls. Info: 423-881-5708.
- 16-17** **Rock Island State Park.** Waterfall Week. Visit waterfalls and/or take a hike with a park naturalist. Info: 931-686-2471.
- 17** **Harpeth River State Park.** Hidden Lake Hike. At 10 a.m., hike a moderate loop trail through a wooded area along bluffs and lakes featuring points of interest from the quarry and resort eras. Reservations are required. Info: 615-952-2099.
- 21-23** **Gatlinburg.** 2013 ATBI Conference at Glenstone Lodge. This year's conference recognizes 15 years of the All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory presented by Discover Life in America. Eric Dinerstein, vice president and lead scientist for World Wildlife Fund, is the keynote speaker. His new book is *The Kingdom of Rarities*. Info: 865-430-4756.
- 23** **Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park.** Kites and Kids Day. From 10 a.m.-2 p.m., kids will have a chance to fly kites, hear music and more. Info: 615-741-5771.
- 23** **Franklin County.** TDEC Division of Natural Areas Field Trip: Early Spring Hike at Walls of Jericho State Natural Area. This strenuous eight-mile hike descends 600 feet into the Walls and continues along the creek to a canyon of sheer bluffs, caves and waterfalls. Reservations are required. The hike meet up starts at 7:30 a.m. CT. to carpool and caravan from Nashville. Info: 615-532-0431.
- 23** **Westmoreland.** TDEC Division of Natural Areas Field Trip: Early Spring Hike at Taylor Hollow State Natural Area in Sumner County. Taylor Hollow is renowned for its floral display. The hike is set for 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. CT. Reservations and info: roger.mccoy@tn.gov.
- 23-24; April 13-14** **Fort Loudoun State Historic Area.** Garrison Weekend. Costumed living history re-enactors portray the daily lives of men and women of the 18th century. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Sunday. Info: 423-884-6217.
- 30** **LaGrange.** TDEC Division of Natural Areas Field Trip: Ghost River State Natural Area Plant Walk with Tennessee Native Plant Society. Check out early spring plants including the Southern Twayblade Orchid, known from only two counties in Tennessee. The hike starts at 10 a.m. CT and reservations are required. Info: 731-512-1369.
- 30 & April 6** **Norris Dam State Park.** Spring Wildflower Hikes. Take a guided hike with state park and TVA staff along the Clinch River in a diverse wildflower area. Hikes begin both days at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. ET at the River Bluff trailhead and at 2 p.m. ET at the Lower Clear Creek trailhead located at Rice's Gristmill. Registration is not required. Info: 865-426-7461.

April

- 6 Brighton.** Lawn and Garden Expo, a free event presented by Tipton County Master Gardeners and held at Brighton Middle School. Hours are 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Info: 901-476-0231.
- 6-7 Fall Creek Falls State Park.** 32nd Annual Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage. Hike to see early spring wildflowers and scenic views during this event that also features workshops, driving tours and more. Info: 423-881-5708.
- 12-13 Standing Stone State Park.** 10th Annual Spring Naturalists Rally. An array of wildflower hikes will be included along with programs on reptiles, birds of prey and butterflies. Info: 931-823-6487.
- 12-14 South Cumberland Recreation Area.** Trails & Trilliums. Join the Friends of South Cumberland for a series of hikes, nature education programs and more. Info: 931-924-2980.
- 13 Edgar Evins State Park.** Celebration of Spring. This free, all day kid-centered event includes guided trail hikes, bird walks, music, kids' races, boat rides, kite flying and more, presented by the Friends of Edgar Evins. Info: 931-858-2114.
- 13-14 Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area.** Carter Mansion Celebration and Militia Muster. Travel back to the 1700s for two days of history and fun at the Carter Mansion, Tennessee's oldest frame house. Local craftsmen will demonstrate traditional skills including natural dyeing and colonial cooking. Event hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on Sunday. Info: 423-543-5808.
- 19-21 Warriors' Path State Park.** Spring Nature Festival. Participate in this free event offering seminars taught by professionals and hikes guided by trained naturalists on topics like spring wildflowers, tracking, astronomy, stream life, geology, spring trees and more. Info: 423-239-6786.
- 20 Panther Creek State Park.** Earth Day Celebration. Events are planned from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Spoone Shelter and are expected to include nature hikes, wildlife demonstrations, a reptile program and more. Info: 423-587-7046.
- 20 Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area.** Landscape Seminar and Plant Auction. An exciting array of native perennials, tree and shrubs will be auctioned off during this event sponsored by the UT Extension Service, East Tennessee Nursery Association and the Elizabethton/Carter County Chamber of Commerce. Event hours are 9 a.m.-noon. Info: 423-543-5808.
- 23-27 Gatlinburg.** 63rd Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. An array of hikes, lectures and programs (both indoors and outdoors) all focusing on the natural and cultural history of the park. Look for salamanders and aquatic insects, go on wildflower, fern or tree identification walks and more. Info: www.springwildflowerpilgrimage.org.
- 27 Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area.** Community Plant Exchange. Bring cuttings and potted outdoor and indoor plants to exchange for species you don't have – it's a fun way to meet other gardeners and increase your collection. Hours are 9 a.m.-10 a.m. Info: 423-543-5808.
- 27 Knoxville.** Ijams Nature Center's Spring Plant Sale. Hours are 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Info: 865-577-4717.